

# Comparisons of Job Characteristics

**Focus Occupation: Physician Assistants (29-1071)**

**Associated Occupation: Physicians and Surgeons, All Other (29-1069)**

[Compare Knowledge](#)

[Compare Skills](#)

[Compare Abilities](#)

[Compare Detailed Work Activities](#)

[Compare Tools and Technologies](#)

<<	Focus occupation element is much lower
<	Focus occupation element is lower
0	Focus occupation element is at a similar level
>	Focus occupation element is at a higher level
>>	Focus occupation element is at a much higher level

## Knowledge

Similarity of Focus Occupation to Associated Occupation: 92

**Focus Occupation: Physician Assistants (29-1071)**

**Associated Occupation: Physicians and Surgeons, All Other (29-1069)**

Associated Occupation's Key Knowledge Elements	Average Rating, All Occupations	Associated Occupation's Rating	Focus Occupation's Rating		Evaluation of Focus Occupation
Medicine and Dentistry	3.7	22.4	22.5	0	Current knowledge level may be sufficient
Biology	3.7	17.0	19.4	>	Current knowledge level is likely sufficient
English Language	11.2	17.0	15.5	0	Current knowledge level may be sufficient
Psychology	6.4	13.2	18.3	>>	Current knowledge level is likely more than sufficient
Therapy and Counseling	3.8	12.4	17.5	>>	Current knowledge level is likely more than sufficient
Chemistry	4.8	10.7	11.7	0	Current knowledge level may be sufficient
Sociology and Anthropology	4.1	8.5	10.2	>	Current knowledge level is likely sufficient

The maximum possible rating is 25.

Source: Alaska Department of Labor and Workforce Development, Research and Analysis Section analysis of O\*NET (Occupation Information Network) data.

## Skills

Similarity of Focus Occupation to Associated Occupation: 96

**Focus Occupation: Physician Assistants (29-1071)**

**Associated Occupation: Physicians and Surgeons, All Other (29-1069)**

Associated Occupation's Key Skills Elements	Average Rating, All Occupations	Associated Occupation's Rating	Focus Occupation's Rating		Evaluation of Focus Occupation
Reading Comprehension	10.7	17.1	15.1	<	A higher skill level may be required
Critical Thinking	10.8	15.8	14.6	0	Current skill level may be sufficient
Active Learning	8.7	14.8	10.7	<<	Extensive development of skills in this area may be required
Social Perceptiveness	9.1	14.4	13.5	0	Current skill level may be sufficient
Judgment and Decision Making	9.4	14.2	13.8	0	Current skill level may be sufficient
Complex Problem Solving	9.1	14.1	10.7	<<	Extensive development of skills in this area may be required

Monitoring	9.9	13.9	12.6	<	A higher skill level may be required
Coordination	9.1	12.8	11.4	<	A higher skill level may be required
Instructing	7.8	12.8	11.3	<	A higher skill level may be required
Service Orientation	7.9	12.8	12.8	0	Current skill level may be sufficient
Science	4.5	12.3	12.2	0	Current skill level may be sufficient
Learning Strategies	7.2	11.6	8.8	<<	Extensive development of skills in this area may be required
Systems Evaluation	6.4	11.0	9.2	<	A higher skill level may be required
Systems Analysis	6.5	10.8	8.4	<	A higher skill level may be required
Management of Personnel Resources	6.9	10.6	7.9	<<	Extensive development of skills in this area may be required

The maximum possible rating is 25.

Source: Alaska Department of Labor and Workforce Development, Research and Analysis Section analysis of O\*NET (Occupation Information Network) data.

Abilities		Similarity of Focus Occupation to Associated Occupation: 96			
Focus Occupation: Physician Assistants (29-1071) Associated Occupation: Physicians and Surgeons, All Other (29-1069)					
Associated Occupation's Key Abilities Elements	Average Rating, All Occupations	Associated Occupation's Rating	Focus Occupation's Rating	Evaluation of Focus Occupation	
Problem Sensitivity	11.1	18.4	16.0	<	Some improvement in abilities may be required
Inductive Reasoning	10.2	18.2	15.0	<	Some improvement in abilities may be required
Oral Comprehension	12.5	17.3	16.0	0	Current ability level may be sufficient
Oral Expression	12.4	17.2	15.4	<	Some improvement in abilities may be required
Written Comprehension	11.0	16.3	14.2	<	Some improvement in abilities may be required
Deductive Reasoning	10.6	15.9	15.0	0	Current ability level may be sufficient
Written Expression	9.8	14.6	12.5	<	Some improvement in abilities may be required
Speech Clarity	10.2	14.0	11.8	<	Some improvement in abilities may be required
Speech Recognition	9.9	13.6	11.0	<	Some improvement in abilities may be required
Information Ordering	9.9	13.0	11.8	<	Some improvement in abilities may be required
Category Flexibility	9.0	12.8	10.8	<	Some improvement in abilities may be required
Flexibility of Closure	7.8	12.3	9.1	<<	Extensive improvement in abilities may be required

The maximum possible rating is 25.

Source: Alaska Department of Labor and Workforce Development, Research and Analysis Section analysis of O\*NET (Occupation Information Network) data.

There are no common work activities.

## Tools and Technologies that Both Occupations Have in Common

Similarity of Focus  
Occupation to Associated  
Occupation: 80

**Focus Occupation: Physician Assistants (29-1071)**

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Tools and Technologies	Exclusivity
Blood pressure units and related products	11
Computers	1
Content authoring and editing software	1
Diagnostic assessment and exam products for general use	21
Electrocardiography EKG units and related products	20
Emergency medical services resuscitation products	15
Hearing testing products	31
Industry specific software	1
Information exchange software	1
Injection and aspiration needles and accessories	25
Intravenous and arterial cannulas and catheters and accessories	29
Intravenous and arterial tubing and administration sets and related products	22
Intravenous infusion pumps and its analyzers and sensors and its accessories	31
Intubation supplies	21
Medical magnetic resonance imaging MRI products	33
Medical radiological imaging information and archiving products	43
Medical suction and vacuum products	33
Medical ultrasound and doppler and echo imaging products	19
Network applications software	1
Neurological exam products	30
Ophthalmic diagnostic exam products	27
Patient point of care testing supplies and equipment	23
Pulmonary function testing and treatment products	24
Pulse oximeters	18
Rehabilitation exercise devices and equipment	24
Respiratory monitoring products	29
Scopes and specula and accessories for medical exam diagnostic use	23
Specimen collection and transport containers and supplies	14
Stethoscopes and related products	14
Surgical clamps and forceps and surgical ligators and related instruments	29
Surgical cutting instruments and snares and related products	24
Surgical dissectors and elevators and picks and related products	56
Surgical equipment and accessories and related products	23
Suture and related products	23
Suture and surgical tissue closure instruments and related products	33
Syringes and accessories	14
Utility and device driver software	17
Viewing and observing instruments and accessories	4

Not all positions in these occupations will necessarily use all of the listed tools and technologies. The exclusivity rating is an indication of how unique the tool or technology is amongst all occupations. The maximum rating is 100. High scores indicate that only a small number of occupations use that tool or technology.

Source: Alaska Department of Labor and Workforce Development, Research and Analysis Section analysis of O\*NET (Occupation Information Network) data.